



Office of Catholic Schools

DIOCESAN SCHOOL RE-OPENING PLAN

For Fall 2020 in response to COVID-19- UPDATED 7/20/20

Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it. - Proverbs 22:6

The Office of Catholic Schools in collaboration with the Florida Department of Education, Florida Catholic Conference of Bishops, local health officials, administrators, and other Diocesan staff has worked diligently to develop a school re-opening plan that allows students to return to campus in a manner that reduces health-related risks while maintaining an environment in which we focus on the education of the whole child.

Our schools will provide virtual and on campus learning with the necessary campus and classroom modifications needed to support students safe return to school on **August 26, 2020**. This plan may be updated regularly based on the guidance of local and state health officials. School principals will share updated information on the school's website and distribute all updates to parents via the school information system.



Masks/Face Coverings

Masks are now required of students in Kindergarten and above during arrival to/dismissal from school; changing of classes; for close group work, and one-on-one instruction when social distancing cannot be maintained or enforced. Masks are encouraged in the classroom but not required if social distancing, using trifold Plexiglas dividers or face shields are in place. Faculty and staff will adhere to similar guidelines.



Academics & Virtual Learning

Students will begin the 2020-2021 academic year in August on campus with the expectation that specific health and safety procedures will be required. Parents may choose to have their children participate in virtual learning which means that a student will be participating with the class via livestream for the entirety of the academic school day.



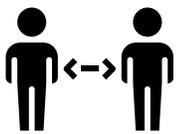
Temperature Screening

Students, teachers, and staff will be required to get temperature checks daily upon arrival. Anyone with a temperature of 100.4°F or above will be sent home. A doctor's note will be required prior to going back to school. Random temperature checks may be done throughout the school day. Anyone with a temperature or feeling ill should stay home to maintain a healthy school campus.



Extracurricular Activities

For parents selecting the virtual learning option for their child, they may also choose if their child will participate in virtual or on campus extracurricular activities such as sports, clubs, and student organizations. We recognize the need for this outlet for the social and emotional wellbeing of the children; however, that the decision about the safety of participation should remain with the parents.



Strategic Social Distancing

Classroom seating will be arranged to maximize strategic social distancing and to limit face-to-face contact. Classes will alternate use of the cafeteria and other campus areas such as outdoor spaces to maintain reduced capacity and strategic distancing protocols.



Mass, Large Gatherings & Sporting Events

School masses will follow the protocols in place by each parish. All athletic sporting events must adhere to state and local guidelines. Strategic social distancing for all large gatherings on campus, inside and outside, of the schools' facilities will be observed.



Cleaning and Disinfecting

Enhanced cleaning protocols have been established to disinfect the campuses daily. High touch surfaces will be regularly disinfected throughout the school day. Teachers and staff will be provided the necessary cleaning and disinfecting materials.



Visitors & Volunteers Protocol

We recommend to forgo the use of campus volunteers when possible. Schools will provide alternative means of serving our communities. Visitors will not be permitted on the campus during the school day other than the front office. This recommendation is made based on the need to limit the exposure of our students, faculty and staff.

For additional resources, please visit the Florida Department of Education Reopening Plan at <http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/19861/urlt/FLDOEReopeningCARESAct.pdf>